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Eighteenth annual report

[New York] [1894]

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Eighteenth Annual Report.

The Philanthropist.

Published mon'hly for the Promotion of Social Purity, the Better Protection of he Young, the Repression of Vice, and the I revention of its Regulation by the State.

A ARON M. POWELL, 58 Reade Street. LEditors. M.S. ANNA RICE POWELL,

EMILY BLACKWELL, M. D.

Rev. B. F. De COSTA, D. D.

Mrs. ELIZABETH P. BOND, and others.

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EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

By Mrs. Anna Rice Powell, SEERETAR1

The year 1893 will be memorable in the records of our Committee's work, as having been one in which we were able to render an unusual service to the Purity Movement, in assuming the responsibility of calling the World's Congress on Social Purity which was held in Chicago in June last. It was one of a series convened under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the Columbian Exposition, and was the first International Congress of its kind ever held in this country. We realized that it involved a great care and labor to make it successful, and shrank from the responsibility involved; but we could not feel excused from making the effort to interpret thus to the world the principles underlying the International Movement which Mrs. Butler, with other noble women and men, have so bravely led abroad, and of which we are a part. We felt also that it was a rare opportunity to impress upon Americans the value of the work of kindred organiza-

Prior to the convening of this Congress, and preparatory therefor, we addressed letters of inquiry to the Secretaries of State in every state in the Union concerning the present status of "age of consent" legislation, involving the legal protection of young girls. We found that in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and California, the age is still at the very low period of en years; also in Colorado, where it was supposed to have been raised to sixteen, it is declared, on account of some legal technicality, to be still tenvers. In "exas, Wisconsin and Washington, it is only

twelve years. Other states range from thirteen to fifteen and sixteen years. Two states, notably those wherein, as in Wyoming full suffrage, and in Kansas where municipal suffrage for women obtains, the age has been raised to eighteen years. It will be seen that along this line there is urgent need for continued and increased labor to secure better legal protection of girlhood.

We have continued our work through THE PINLAN-THROPIST and the circulation of lenflet literature, and have many encouraging evidences that it is having a potent influence in educating public opinion aright on this important subject. Only a few days ago we received a letter from a clergyman in Rhode Island expressing thanks for the service rendered him by our journal. He writes: "Before I saw your paper I gave no thought to the matter, no more than nine-tenths of busy pastors do, but that number awoke me. I began thinking; I began studying; God led me to begin working;

We avoid sensational appeals; we are striving rather to create, by right education, better conditions based on immutable moral law, operative alike for men and women. We urge, therefore, preventive measures and encourage the organization of White Cross leagues pledging young men to chastity. We believe there can be no cure for prostitution while the double standard of morality prevails. We strenuously oppose all attempts to license or regulate it which can only perpetuate and foster the evil. We are constantly confronted with efforts to establish governmental control of it, in the vain delusion that the only

thing which can be done is to provide for it, and keep it hidden from a certain portion of the public. Every year we have to watch and thwart the attempts of those who would fasten this method upon us through our own legislature at Albany. This is what we have to guard against in all our large cities, as the recent deplorable developments in Cleveland, Ohio, and Davenport, Lowa, show.

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Our expenditures for the year, amounting to \$1148 84 have been, with the exception of those incidental to the World's Congress and other meetings, for printing THE PHI ANTHROPIST, leaflets, pamphlets, etc., for postage, expressage, and some clerical assistance. We commenced the year with a balance in our treasury of \$156.71. Our receipts from The Philanthropist, leaflets and pamphlets, have been: \$482.54; from donations, \$603.94. We enter upon the year 1894 with a balance of 19435. It will be seen that without the aid of the donations from those who appreciate the value of the worl, we could not continue to publish The Phil-ANTHROFIST. Such a journal must needs be published in a missionary way. It has to contend with prejudice and unpopularity. We confidently appeal, therefore, to those who have sustained it in the past to continue their co operation, which will be greatly needed the coming ear.

The pist has been a prosperous year in the work of the International Federation in seeking the abolition of State Regulation of Vice in European countries. The Annual International Congress of the Federation, which was held at the Hague, Holland, in September last, was an occasion of marked interest. The reports of the progress of the movement for the abolition of regulation in India, Italy, Switzerland, France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and other countries, were of a most encouraging character. What Europe is thus striving to put away, America should on no account be allowed to adopt in any form, State or Municipal, in these closing years of the nine-teenth century.

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SOCIAL PURITY LEAFLETS.

THE PHILANTHROPIST SERIES.

The following leadlets of the PHILANTHROPIST SERIES have been published:

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3 .- " SA' E THE BOYS" by Rev. J. P. Gledstone,

4. - "Social Purity the Latest and Greatest Crusade," eight pages, by Frances E. Willard.

5.—"TH : SACREDNESS OF MOTHERHOOD," by Mrs. Elizabeth Powell

6. —" THE WHITE CROSS," by the Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter D. D. Bishop of New York.

7. - "MIS. BUTLER-THE NEW MORAL CRUSADE," with portrait, eight pages, reprinted from The Christian, London.

8.—"The Double Standard of Morality," by Mrs. Josephine E. Butler

9 .- " CL AN LIPS," by Rev. J. P. Gledstone.

10.—" He w to Organize the White Cross-Its Objects and Methods," eight pages, by Rev. B. F. De Costa, D. D.

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12.—" GUARDING THE YOUNG," by Mrs. Elizabeth Powell Bond.
13.—" ACE OF CONSENT" LEGISLATION. by Rev. A. H. Lewis, D. D.

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